

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL OLMEDA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 1995

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce my colleagues to Michael Olmeda. Michael's story is a testament to overcoming personal adversity. At one point in his life he succumbed to substance abuse, but through personal resolve, he continues to escape the lure of chemical reliance and self-indulgence.

Mike presently works for Assemblyman Darryl Towns, and cut his political teeth working for Senator Ada Smith. In his current capacity, he works with senior citizens and a substance abuse rehabilitation program.

Mr. Olmeda is married to his wife of 14 years, Cecilia, and they have three children, Steven, Raquel, and Travis. He lives by a philosophy that is his source of renewal, "Each One, Teach One." Truly, the experience of Michael Olmeda is a profile in courage and success.

CHILD ABDUCTION AND
EXPLOITATION

SPEECH OF

HON. PATRICIA SCHROEDER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 1995

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, there are five categories of missing children, they are:

First, abducted by family members.

Second, abducted by nonfamily members.

Third, runaways.

Fourth, throwaways.

Fifth, lost, injured or other reasons.

All numbers are for 1988 cases.

Family abductions: Involves taking the child in violation of the custody agreement, referred to as "child snatching."

Fifty-three percent were living with a single parent; 41 percent occurred in the midst of an ongoing relationship; 2 percent involved snatching the child from day care centers, rather they involved violations of custody agreements.

Nonfamily abductions: There were 114,600 attempted abductions. There were 3,200–4,600 children abducted. Children ages 4–11 experienced the most attempts. Most attempts involved a car.

More than half the victims were age 12 and older; 62 percent were to strangers; 19 percent were to acquaintances; force was used against 84% of the victims.

Runaways: Children who left home overnight without permission. There were 450,7000, although the majority went to familiar places. There were 133,500 children who left without a secure and familiar place to stay; 67 percent were 16 to 17 years old.

Throwaways: Children who are thrown out of their homes. There were 59,200 cases reported; 84 percent were for children between the ages of 16 and 17.

Lost, injured or otherwise missing: 139,000 reported cases; 47 percent ages 4 and under.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT CHILD
ABDUCTION AND EXPLOITATION

Know where your children are at all times. Be familiar with their friends and daily activities.

Be sensitive to changes in your children's behavior; they are a signal that you should sit down and talk to your children about what caused the changes.

Be alert to a teenager or adult who is paying an unusual amount of attention to your children or giving them inappropriate or expensive gifts.

Teach your children to trust their own feelings, and assure them that they have the right to say "NO" to what they sense is wrong.

Listen carefully to your children's fears, and be supportive in all your discussions with them.

Teach your children that no one should approach them or touch them in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable. If someone does, they should tell the parents immediately.

Be careful about babysitters and any other individual who have custody of your children.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 1995

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, due to a family obligation, I was not present to vote yesterday afternoon.

If I had been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall 757, the rules resolution for the District of Columbia Appropriations Act; "no" on rollcall 758, the Bonilla amendment revoking the D.C. property tax exemption for the National Education Association; and "no" on rollcall 759, the Hostettler amendment repealing the District of Columbia's Domestic Partnership Act.

VETERANS DAY 1995

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 1995

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to our veterans who have served their country with honor and valor. This November 11, as we celebrate Veterans Day, we must recognize the commitment made by these men and women and reaffirm our Nation's commitment to honor their great sacrifices.

Whether on the beaches of Normandy, the jungle of Vietnam, the desert of Iraq, or in Korea, American men and women were there, protecting America and her allies from foreign aggressors. We, as a nation, owe a debt of gratitude to our veterans, whose accomplishments shaped America and the world.

Several events have made 1995 quite a testimony to the successes of our veterans. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the United Nations, which rose above the disaster of World War II to provide assistance, hope, and peace to millions of people around the world. A new prospect for peace has arisen in the Middle East due to the historic signing of a peace accord between the P.L.O. and Israel. A Korean War Memorial was dedicated this year in our Nation's Capital finally giving due recognition to the veterans of a war that was largely forgotten. And finally, and most impor-

tantly, this year marks the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II. Fifty years ago, our troops courageously halted the Nazi and Japanese advance. Today, as a testimony to their efforts, these two nations are among our closest allies.

It is imperative that we remember the patriotism of these great men and women. If our forces had not succeeded, the course of history would have been altered. The peace and prosperity that we have come to expect in America is directly attributable to the sacrifices made by the millions of American soldiers who risked their lives for the ideals of freedom and democracy. Let us continue to recognize their commitment to us, and let us reaffirm our commitment to our veterans on this Veterans Day, 1995.

MEDICARE PRESERVATION ACT OF
1995

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2425) to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to preserve and reform the Medicare Program.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of Representative ORTON's substitute budget, offered on behalf of the Democrats. It is a positive alternative.

It is critical that we balance our budget—particularly for future generations. This plan does that without gutting Medicare, without eliminating Medicaid, without cutting student loans and without adding provisions that threaten our environment. This budget creates solid footing for this Nation's economy. It doesn't ask our children and elderly to go without medical care so that wealthy individuals can receive a \$245 billion tax cut.

Unlike the Republican budget plan, this substitute protects health insurance for the poor and the elderly. First, it increases preventive benefits for the elderly. At the same time, it ensures that the monthly Medicare premium paid by beneficiaries does not increase. The Republicans, under their budget, ask seniors to pay more in monthly premiums. The Orton substitute continues paying premiums and deductibles for low-income Medicare recipients. The Republican plan does not. This substitute budget maintains Medicaid as an entitlement program so that children and pregnant women are guaranteed access to health care coverage. The Republicans abolish Medicaid as an entitlement, tearing away guaranteed health insurance for two out of every five of our Nation's children. Restricting Medicaid benefits will add to the already high number of uninsured individuals.

The Republican budget cuts student loans. Education programs, particularly, student loans would be preserved under this budget. Education is the essential foundation on which we continue to build the future of our Nation.

Finally, this substitute plan protects and tightens the earned income tax credit [EITC]. Under the Republican budget, childless couples and senior citizens who work would no longer receive this credit. It seems ironic that